

... Sharon Visits Atlantic City

(Continued from Page A-1) gram. Rehearsals and official activities keep the girls occupied throughout the week.

Among the prizes going to the 1969 Miss America is a \$10,000 scholarship. Each participant receives \$500 and most of them received a \$1,000 prize for winning state titles.

The Miss America Contest, it can be pointed out, is not especially popular among the press. The idea of sing-

ing out an American beauty has often been considered silly and ridiculous.

ATLANTIC CITY, itself, does not go to extremes to mark the occasion of the annual pageant starting the day after Labor Day. Only a half dozen cubicals placed on the boardwalk to hustle souvenir programs and reserved parade seating identified the pageant last week. The Convention Center housed a two week engage-

ment of the Ice Capades that closed Saturday night. Stage props were already being assembled for the queen contest. All judging takes place in the giant auditorium between Wednesday and Saturday. Crowds estimated as high as 20,000 will be thrilled to a display of swim wear in 3-dimension, a variety show on the border on an Amateur Hour, and a fashion show with Toni home permanents. The Miss America contest-

ants obviously belong to the Pepsi Generation, yet thousands who have flocked into the hotels are predominantly senior citizens who belong to the Geritol Generation. With the accompanying long Labor Day weekend, hotel rooms have been at a premium. In some hotels only doubles are provided and go for \$20 to \$40. The prices dip a little during pageant week. Only the Holiday Inn and the Claridge are not some type of fire trap.

The fire that occurred Saturday morning threatened the Haddon Hall Hotel which is also "Control Center" for the pageant. But only eight boardwalk business joints and a large section of the wooden walkway were ruined. Reconstruction was started immediately.

THE BEACH is closed at 10 p.m., but with the warm weather the boardwalk remains jammed until well past midnight.

The walk is a real leisure, but battery-driven "rolling chairs" which carry three persons are for hire for \$3 an hour. It's a bargain.

Hundreds of door-to-door gyp-joints, however, are a joke. A front page news article told of a woman who successfully challenged an establishment which tricked her into paying a high price for a cheap ring. Near this same business was the hustling newspaper salesman who demanded 20 cents for a copy of a 10 cent edition. Ironically, in the same vicinity was a police mobile unit designed for crime prevention propaganda.

THE best policed function of Atlantic City is the Miss America Pageant itself. The girls did not know what it really meant to be chaperoned until they came to town. A 40-page pamphlet dictates the policies of the pageant. It is rather conservative.

A contestant is not permitted to speak to a male member of her own family

... SCAG Issue Splits Council

(Continued from Page A-1) school lunches, saying "Our logic doesn't extend from one ear to the other!" Beasley also said that the hysteria against SCAG was generated three or four years ago when the John Birch Society "needed some-

thing to rally around." SCAG actually serves to "protect local government," not pre-empt it, Beasley said. Councilmen Sciarrotta and Miller each voiced approval of accepting the federal money, although they made it clear they objected to the basic idea of dishing out federal funds.

Mayor Isen brought up the fact that the Edison Co., which owns the land in the Columbia Park area, has decided not to give the city the long-term lease first expected. Instead, the lease will be given on a year to year basis, with a one-year notice of cancellation clause.

except to obtain the federal grant, and suggested that the measure be put off until it is certain that the Edison lease terms are acceptable to the state and federal governments. SCAG is a voluntary group of Southern California local governments providing a forum for discussion to study regional problems.

ISEN SAID there was no point to joining the SCAG

Methodists To Present Drug Talk

Dr. Henry Hall, executive director of the Narcotic Education Association of Los Angeles, will be guest speaker Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. service at Walteria United Methodist Church, 3646 Newton St.

without a hostess present. Rules are imposed to prevent any distraction from the beauty pageant, much to the annoyance of well-wishers.

Finally, by Saturday night one of these 50 sweethearts will be asked to go out into the world for one year to serve as a goodwill ambassador for America. She can begin on the Boardwalk!



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